

rmored Division celebrating 60 years of history



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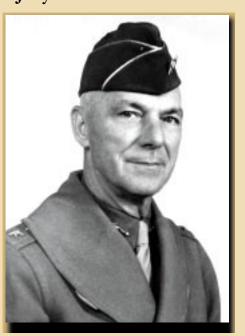
2nd Brigade prepares for KFOR

Everyday heroes of 1st Armored Division

July 15 was the 60th birthday for "Old Ironsides." After 60 years, the 1st Armored Division remains the Army's only activeduty tank division. From its beginning at Fort Knox, Kentucky, in 1940, the division's awesome power has been felt in places like Tunisia, Algeria, Sicily, Italy, Iraq, Bosnia, Albania, and today in Kosovo. Because of you, our division remains a fit, disciplined, cohesive team led by skilled and versatile leaders focused on excellence and capable of rapid deployment and decisive victory. Past accomplishments of this great division serve to remind us of the lethality of an armored force and versatility of the American soldier.

The division's celebrated history has placed it first on beaches in Africa and in Italy during World War II, first in Bosnia during Operation Joint Endeavor in 1995, first in Albania during Operation Allied Force in 1999, and first in Kosovo during Operation Joint Guardian in 1999. Today, a little more than a year after it first entered Kosovo, "Old Ironsides" has returned to assume control of Multi-national Brigade – East from 1st Infantry

Major General Bruce R. Magruder July 1940 - March 1942



Division. The division will stay in Kosovo until June 2001 ensuring a safe and secure environment for Kosovar citizens, fostering the ongoing civil implementation plan, and deterring hostilities.

The future is just as bright for "Old Ironsides." Already fully modernized, the division is converting to LCD XXI, and organiza-



Maj. Gen. George W. Casey, Jr.

tional change will increase firepower and reconnaissance capabilities. We have tested new concepts for rapid deployment to demonstrate the ability of Army units to be at the point of influence when they're needed. And we are in the final stages of moving the division headquarters from Bad Kreuznach to Wiesbaden - yet another chapter in our history.

Be proud of your division's heritage and of the future as we celebrate "Old Ironsides" 60th birthday. You are a part of America's Tank Division.

In 1941 General George S. Patton Jr. had just named his 2nd Armored Division "Hell on Wheels" and everyone thought that the 1st Armored Division needed a name, too. General Bruce Magruder, the commander of the 1st Armored Division, announced a contest to find a suitable name for his division.

Approximately 200 names were submitted including "Fire and Brimstone" and "Kentucky Wonders." The general took them home to study over the weekend but failed to find any that appealed to him.

While mulling the matter over, he happened to glance at a picture of the U.S.S. Constitution that he had bought during a drive for funds for the preservation of that famous fighting ship known as "Old Ironsides." That ended the search for a name. The 1st Armored Division became "Old Ironsides" that same day and 40 months of fighting later testified that its name was well chosen. This was a fighting division.

Major General Bruce R. Magruder July 1940 - Mar 1942

July 2000

1AD takes control in Kosovo

Story and Photos by Spc. Kathleen A. Edgcomb

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo -- Command of Kosovo Force's American Sector was passed from the 1st Infantry Division to the 1st Armored Division in a transfer of authority ceremony at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, June 20.

1st Infantry Division
Assistant Division Commander
for Support Brig. Gen. Ricardo
Sanchez handed the NATO flag
to KFOR Eurocorps Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Juan
Ortuno, who in turn handed it
to 1st Armored Division
Assistant Division Commander
for Maneuver Brig. Gen. Randal
Tieszen, signifying the division's
take over of KFOR's American
Sector in Kosovo.

The ceremony took place on Camp Bondsteel's gravel parade field against the backdrop of Kosovo's broad Sharri Mountains. NATO soldiers stood in formation beneath their nations' flags, amid strains of military music played by the 1st Armored Division Band.

Sanchez reflected on the 1st Infantry Division's impact in Kosovo since their arrival.

"Only if you stood on this ground one year ago and scanned the horizon could you possibly measure the impact our soldiers have had on the peace and stability of Kosovo," said Sanchez.

The 1st Infantry
Division's 2nd Brigade deployed
to Kosovo with Task Force
Falcon, the nickname given to
U.S. forces assigned to KFOR
under Brig. Gen. Brantz J.
Craddock. Task Force Falcon
entered the war-torn province
of Kosovo on June 12, 1999.

The Task Force grew into the Multi-National Brigade (East) composed of forces from eight nations-Greece, Poland, Russia, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, Jordan, Lithuania and the United States. Headquarters for the task force were established at Camp Bondsteel, near Urosevic.

KFOR was tasked to keep the peace in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's Kosovo province in accordance with the terms of the Rambouillet Peace Accord.

Initially MNB(E) monitored and verified the withdrawal of Former Republic of Yugoslavia forces in accordance to the Military-Technical Agreement. The brigade later took on the demilitarization and transformation of the Kosovo Liberation Army.

Various units of the 1st Infantry Division rotated through Kosovo as part of the NATO-led KFOR.

Prior to Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo suffered from the effects of ethnic cleansing, Sanchez said.

"There is no doubt that we have a long way to go to ensure lasting peace, but soldiers have brought this province those first rays of hope and stability in a very short period of time," said Sanchez.

"We have not saved every life, nor eliminated suffering, but that does not mean we have not tried, or that we should not continue to strive for that goal.

"Ultimately the final solution rests upon the willingness of all the people of Kosovo to commit themselves to tolerance and maybe some



Lt. Gen. Juan Ortuno, Commanding General, KFOR/EURO CORPS, conducts the Transfer of Authority of Task Force Falcon and the Multinational Brigade (East) between Brig. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, 1st Infantry Division Asst Div Cdr (Support), and Brig. Gen. Randal Tieszen, 1st Armored Division Asst Div Cdr (Maneuver), by symbolically transferring the NATO colors from Sanchez to Tieszen.

day to a multi-ethnic society. No one should tolerate violence," said Sanchez.

"Under the leadership of the 1st Infantry Division, Multinational Brigade East, and Task Force Falcon, we (the Army) have laid the groundwork for success," said Sanchez.

Some of the successes include significantly reduced violence, peace talks between Serbs and Albanians, establishment of municipal governments, villages alive with daily activity and reconstruction of homes, roads and businesses, said Sanchez.

"All of these are small steps,

but one must take the first step in order to reach our destination, and together we have taken the first steps to a peaceful Kosovo," said Sanchez.

"We are trained, we are ready, we are disciplined and we are committed to maintaining a safe and secure place for all Kosovars to live, work and grow," said Tieszen.

"We are dedicated to the United Nations' efforts to establish effective civil administrations and encourage and develop economic progress in the region."

"Life here can improve if we work together," said Tieszen.

1-37 on patrol in Kosovo

Story and photos by Pvt. Benjamin Z. Etzioni

PARTES, Kosovo -- A 1st Armored Division tank platoon has made an immediate impact since its arrival in the small town of Partes in Kosovo. Even though continuously occupied with checkpoints, patrols, and traffic, the platoon's achievement is apparent. Their success lies in the relative peace and safety that has continued in the area, despite the transition of the peacekeepers.

"We are posted out here to maintain a safe environment for the people of Partes," said Staff Sgt. Dwight C.
Boatright, 3rd Platoon, Company A, 1-37
Armored Battalion squad leader. "We are stationed out here in a battery factory in a Serbian town. It is sort of like being on an island since we are mostly surrounded by Albanian villages. We work right here so the people of Partes can move in and out, escorted most of the time. We are here to keep things quiet."



A soldier from 1-37 searches a local national who was pulled over for not complying with checkpoint instructions.



Pfc. Jason Rumsey signals to the driver of a passing vehicle to slow down along the main road through Partes.

The platoon maintains a checkpoint in the center of Partes across the street from the town's church.

"We make sure that the local and outside traffic coming through slows down to respect the people of Partes," said Boatright. "Most of the traffic coming through here is heading towards Gnjilane and they are going kind of fast so we slow them down. We also do dismounted patrols and walk through the town to show people presence. We basically let them see that KFOR cares about their needs and concerns."

According to Cpl. Michael Wallace, 3rd Platoon, Company A, 1-37 Armored Battalion, Platoon Sergeant, the people of Partes have been receptive to the platoon.

"So fare they have treated us the same as they treated the last unit that was here because they know our mission is the same," said Wallace. "There are a few who are quite friendly. They know why we are here, They understand that we have families of our own and we are still here. They respect that."

According to Pfc. Jason Rumsey, a

3rd Platoon, Company A, 1-37 Armored Battalion, loader, the platoon understands the importance of their mission.

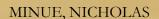
"There are little kids who run up and down this street and play," said Rumsey. "If we were not here to do our job then there would be a lot more deaths caused by traffic accidents because the people around here don't have licenses. They have not had any driver's training courses, so they do not know how to drive all that well. We are here to keep the kids safe and everybody else that walks through Partes safe."

Third Platoon, Company A, 1-37 Armored Battalion, Platoon Leader, 2nd Lt. Michael E. Persin likes how the mission has gone so far.

"I have no real concerns other then standard security," said Persin. "We have a great relationship with the people here. I have no complaints about the people we have had to deal with, at all. They had a great relationship with the previous platoon that was stationed here prior to us. We are trying hard to pick up right where they left off and keep things on an even keel."

July 2000

1st Armored Divis ion Heroes



Rank and organization: Private, U.S. Army, Company A, 6th Armored Infantry, 1st Armored Division. Place and date: Near MedjezelBab, Tunisia, 28 April 1943. Entered service at: Carteret, N.J. Birth: Sedden, Poland. G.O. No.: 24, 25 March 1944. Citation: For distinguishing himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the loss of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy on 28 April 1943, in the vicinity of MedjezelBab, Tunisia. When the advance of the assault elements of Company A was held up by flanking fire from an enemy machinegun nest, Pvt. Minue voluntarily, alone, and unhesitatingly, with complete disregard of his own welfare, charged the enemy entrenched position with fixed bayonet. Pvt. Minue assaulted the enemy under a withering machinegun and rifle fire., killing approximately 10 enemy machinegunners and riflemen. After completely destroying this position, Pvt. Minue continued forward, routing enemy riflemen from dugout positions until he was fatally wounded. The courage, Fearlessness and aggressiveness displayed by Pvt. Minue in the face of inevitable death was unquestionably the factor that gave his company the offensive spirit that was necessary for advancing and driving the enemy from the entire sector.



TAYLOR, JAMES ALLEN

Rank and organization: Captain (then 1st Lt.), U.S. Army, Troop B, 1st Cavalry, Americal Division. Place and date: West of Que Son, Republic of Vietnam, 9 November 1967. Entered service at: San Francisco, Calif. Born: 31 December 1937, Arcata, Calif. Citation: Capt. Taylor, Armor, was serving as executive officer of Troop B, 1st Squadron. His troop was engaged in an attack on a fortified position west of Que Son when it came under intense enemy recoilless rifle, mortar, and automatic weapons fire from an enemy strong point located immediately to its front. One armored cavalry assault vehicle was hit immediately by recoilless rifle fire and all 5 crew members were wounded. Aware that the stricken vehicle was in grave danger of exploding, Capt. Taylor rushed forward and personally extracted the wounded to safety despite the hail of enemy fire and exploding ammunition. Within minutes a second armored cavalry assault vehicle was hit by multiple recoilless rifle rounds. Despite the continuing intense enemy fire, Capt. Taylor moved forward on foot to rescue the wounded men from the burning vehicle and personally removed all the crewmen to the safety of a nearby dike. Moments later the vehicle exploded. As he was returning to his vehicle, a bursting mortar round painfully wounded Capt. Taylor, yet at the new evacuation sire, still another assault on the enemy position, and were he valiantly returned to his vehicle to re-vehicle was struck. Once again Capt. directly responsible for saving the lives of locate the medical evacuation landing Taylor rushed forward and pulled the a number of his fellow soldiers. His aczone to an area closer to the front lines. wounded from the vehicle loaded them tions were in keeping with the highest tra-As he was moving his vehicle, it came aboard his vehicle, and returned them ditions of the military profession and reunder machine-gun fire from an enemy safely to the evacuation site. His actions flect great credit upon himself, his unit,



engaged the position with his machine-inspiration to his entire troop, contributed position not 50 yards away. Capt. Taylor of unsurpassed valor were a source of and the U.S. Army.

gun, killing the 3-man crew. Upon arrival significantly to the success of the overall

IRONSIDE July 2000

Happy Birthday 1st Armor ed Division

inception. Campaigns in North Africa and Italy during WWII were only the beginning for America's Tank Division. 1st Armored Division continued to lead the nation during troubled times with Cuba and through Vietnam. Old Ironsides brought new meaning to the words heavy metal impact as the division crushed the Iraqi Republican Guard during Desert Storm. Leaving a sea of burning metal hulks and twisted wreckage in her

wake of desert sand, Old Ironsides returned to peaceful

times and tough training in Germany.

The peace following Desert Storm was shattered

NOW

1st Armored Division soldiers have been at the

vanguard of America's fighting forces since the division's

by ethnic cleansing and political upheaval in the Balkans. Again, 1st Armored Division received the call. The division forged the way across the Sava River into Bosnia in 1995.

No strangers to the Balkans, 1st Armored Division deployed troops to Albania in April 1999 during Task Force Hawk. As in Bosnia, 1st Armored Division tanks were the first to roll across the border into hostile territory.

Today, 1st Armored Division's Ready First Combat Team is on point for the nation in Kosovo, patrolling towns like Partes, Klokot and Gnjilane.

Born into a world at war and tempered in the flames of conflict, 1st Armored Division celebrates her 60th birthday at the head of America's combat forces in Kosovo.

Training at Fort Knox, Ky. in 1941 (above), 1st Armored Division's 13th Armored Regiment prepares for combat



H

on a M-48 Patton tank at Fort Polk, La., in 1956.

and

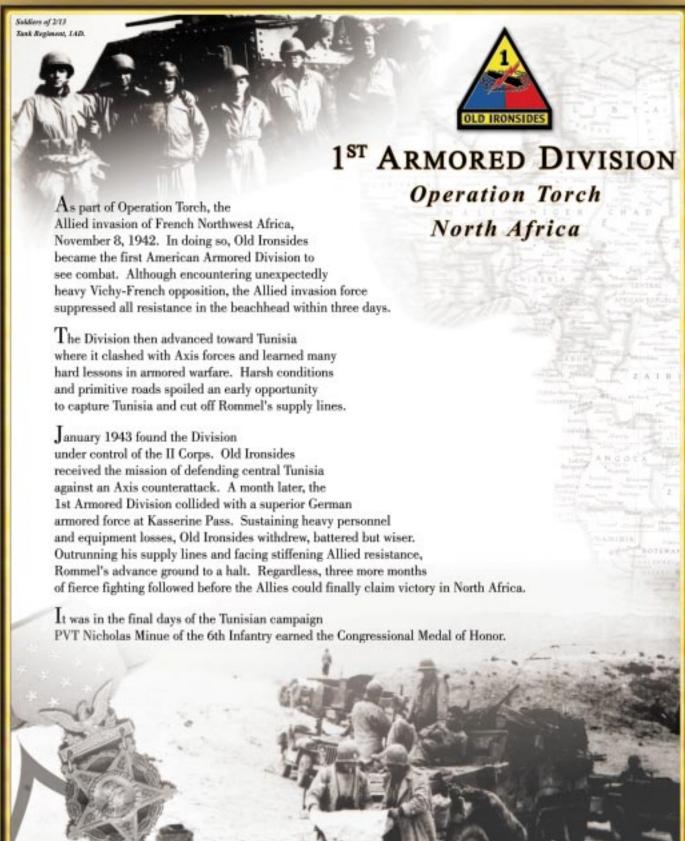


landing exercise in Fort Lauderdale, Fl., in 1962.



Mounted on Bradley Fighting Vehicles (center and above), soldiers from 1-36 Infantry, based in Friedberg, Germany, patrol the roads in Partes, Kosovo.











1ST ARMORED DIVISION

Vietnam

Although the 1st Armored Division
did not participate as a Division in the Vietnam War,
two units, Company A, 501st Aviation and 1st Squadron,
1st Cavalry served with distinction. Both earned
Presidential Unit Citations, and 1-1 Cavalry received
two Valorous Unit Awards and three Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry.
Neither unit was officially detached from the 1st Armored Division
and veterans of both units may wear the Old Ironsides as a combat patch.

In addition, in 1967 the 198th Infantry Brigade was formed from three of the Division's Infantry Battalions and deployed from Fort Hood to Vietnam. After the war, two of the three battalions, 1-6 Infantry and 1-52 Infantry, returned to the 1st Armored Division.

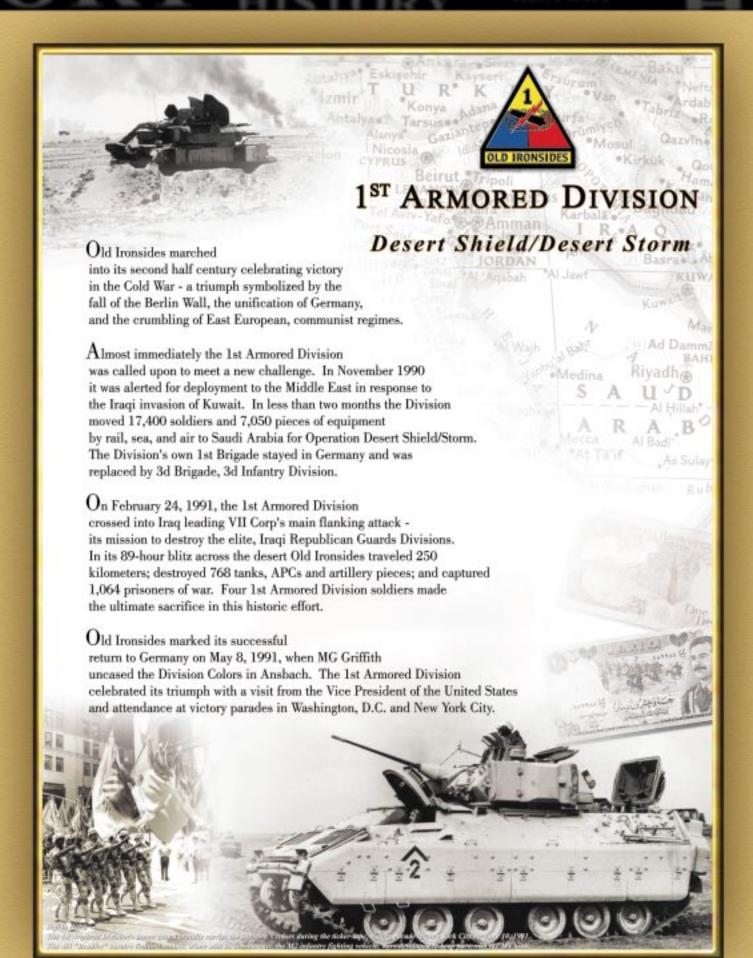
1968 was a crisis-filled year of domestic unrest.

After the assassination of Martin Luther King,
several inner cities exploded into violence. The
3rd Brigade deployed to Chicago to assist in restoring order.

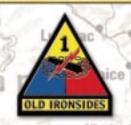
The early 1970's brought the withdrawal of American Forces from Vietnam and a major restructuring of the Army. Old Ironsides was rumored to be on the list of units to be inactivated. Veterans of the Division organized a letter-writing campaign to "save" the 1st Armored Division. Their efforts were rewarded when on May 10, 1971, 1st Armored Division left its home at Fort Hood, Texas to replace the 4th Armored Division in Germany.



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Zvornik

1ST ARMORED DIVISION

Operation Joint Endeavor

Task Force Eagle

December 1995 - December 1996

On December 14, 1995,
the 1st Armored Division was ordered
to Bosnia-Herzegovina as part of Operation Joint Endeavor.
This task force, known as Task Force Eagle, assumed control
of its area of responsibility during a transfer of authority ceremony
with United Nations forces at Eagle Base, Tulza on December 20, 1999.

After the historic bridging of the Sava River on December 31, 1995, the Old Ironsides Division, with supporting forces from the 5th U.S. Corps, was joined by Nordic-Polish, Turkish, and Russian brigades - in total - 12 Nations: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, and the United States.

Task Force Eagle,

one of the most powerful formations ever fielded, enforced the cease-fire, supervised the marking of boundaries and the zone of separation between the former warring factions, enforced withdrawal of the combatants, and the movement of the heavy weapons to designated storage sites.

Task Force Eagle also supported the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's efforts to administer the country's first ever democratic national elections.

On November 10, 1996, the 1st Armored Division transferred authority for command and control of Task Force Eagle to the 1st Infantry Division. The 1st Infantry Division deployed as a covering force to allow the safe return of the 1st Armored Division to Germany.



Don Shula visits 1AD

Story and photos by Pvt. Benjamin Z. Etzioni

BAUMHOLDER, Germany-Former National Football League head coach and Hall of Fame inductee Don Shula visited with 1st Armored Division Battalion and Company/Battery commanders, as well as division soldiers May 2, in Baumholder. During his visit, he conducted a leadership lecture based on his book, "Everyone's A Coach.".

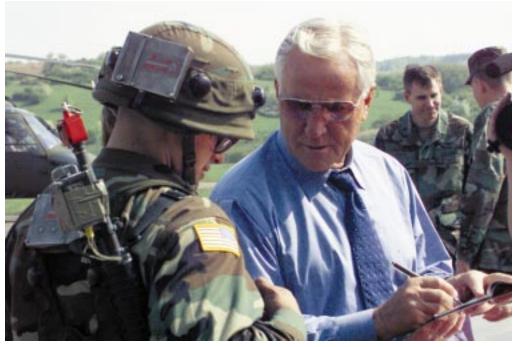
Shula was a head coach in the NFL for 33 years. He spent the first seven seasons with the Baltimore Colts, and the rest of his career with the Miami Dolphins. He coached in six Super Bowls, winning two of them. He was the coach of the undefeated Dolphins in 1972.

"A perfect season had never been done before and has never been done since," said Shula. "That is an accomplishment that I have always been really proud of. When I think about the perfect season and when I think about the U.S. Army and what you are responsible for, you guys have to have a perfect season every year. We just can not ever afford to lose. In football when you lose you can get back up and do it again. We can't afford to lose. We have to train that way and we have to be that much more prepared to win every battle that we are going to be facing."

Brig. Gen. Michael D. Maples, 1st Armored Division's assistant division commander for support, said, "These soldiers in front of you today are going to take everything they have learned about C.O.A.C.H. and they are going to put it into action over the next year as they prepare to do their mission."

Shula compared the roles of a football coach to that of an officer and a noncommissioned officer and how they are responsible for those who work under them.

"Sooner or later all of us are responsible for the actions of others," said Shula. "In a sense, that is what coaching is all about. The General



Don Shula signs autographs for 1st Armored Division soldiers after his lecture at 2nd Brigade in Baumholder, Germany.

knows what coaching is all about. His assistants, the assistant coaches, know what coaching is all about. The troops have to be coached. They have to be led and taught what to do in the situations that they are going to be exposed to."

The majority of his lecture was derived from the acronym COACH (Conviction Driven, Over-learning, Audible Ready, Consistency, Honesty Based) which he based his book on.

"You have to have a vision of what you want to accomplish," said Shula. "My vision has always been a vision of perfection. I want to do everything right. You have to have that vision. Your vision should always be that vision of perfection. If you shoot for perfection, you might attain it but it is all right to settle for excellence."

Shula likened his vision of perfection to marksmanship.

"If you shoot for a target and you miss the target the you miss everything," said Shula. "If you shoot at the bull's eye and hit the bull's eye that is perfection. If you miss the bull's eye but you are still on target, that is

excellence."

Shula compared the concept of being audible ready to what he had heard about the training for seeing-eye dogs. The disobedient and obedient dogs were thrown out of the program. They kept the dogs that did whatever the trainer said unless it did not make sense.

During his lecture Shula stressed the importance of not letting success go to your head.

Shula closed with his presentation on honesty. "You need to hone your skills and practice what you preach. Through the years my pledge to the people that I have been responsible for was that if you give me your best, morning, noon and night in the classroom, on the practice field and on game day, no matter how long we are together, that I am going to give you my best and put you in a position to be the best that you can possibly be and get the most out of your ability. I'm going to be straight with you. I want your respect because respect is much more important than popularity. Too many people get caught up in popularity."

July 2000

